

hard-earned money on their own needs. Rather than supporting billion-dollar corporate welfare programs, taxpayers should be allowed to provide for the welfare of their own families.

Mr. Speaker, we can help. We can move Tax Freedom Day to an earlier slot on the calendar by cutting big government down to size and providing American people with the healthy tax cut that they richly deserve. And next year, we can celebrate Tax Freedom Day a little earlier.

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SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, this morning I am talking about trailers. Temporary school buildings. I have visited over 80 schools in my district and everywhere I go, parents, teachers, and students all talk to me about the problem of overcrowding and the expense of construction.

Just last week, Secretary of Education Riley and I visited Crossroads School in a school district where the total student population has doubled in the past 11 years from 3,500 students to 7,000 now.

Mr. Speaker, study after study shows that smaller class sizes produce better students. With the median school construction cost for an elementary school in New Jersey at \$13 million, and the price of a new high school at more than \$22 million on average, these are expenses that our beleaguered taxpayers cannot afford. They cannot continue to have staggering tax increases year after year.

So, Mr. Speaker, they are putting up temporary trailers. Temporary buildings may be a temporary solution, but they are not cheap. They cost nearly \$40,000 to install, \$6,000 a year to lease, and there is a maintenance cost.

There is also a cost to the students. Trailers may provide more space, but do not provide the optimal learning environment for a quality education. Because of their long, rectangular shape, students have trouble seeing the blackboard, and many do not have Internet connections.

Congress must act to pass legislation that will provide much-needed financial assistance to fast growing school districts.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I want to just make a couple comments on Social Security. Mr. Speaker, I see a lot of young people joining us today. They are the generation at risk on Social Security. The actuaries of the Social Security Administration re-

port that, if we do nothing with Social Security, we are either going to see taxes increase by 54 percent or benefits cut by 33 percent.

The chart I have here is a pie chart of the Federal Government spending this year. The bottom green piece of that pie represents Social Security benefits and equals 20 percent of total Federal spending. The cost of senior programs continues to grow. The problem is exacerbated by the fact that people are living longer and therefore are drawing on Social Security longer. At the same time our birth rate is going down. The result is fewer workers paying payroll tax to finance higher benefit costs.

That leads us to a predicament where we are going in the red on Social Security. This year, with the Presidential race, it is an appropriate time to discuss Social Security, to get into the details of how we are really going to solve this problem and how we are really going to save this very important program.

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BRAIN TUMOR AWARENESS WEEK

(Mr. ROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, this is Brain Tumor Awareness Week. Each year, over 100,000 people in the United States alone will be diagnosed with a brain tumor. Unfortunately, the general public is not that familiar with this disease. Brain tumors are the second leading cause of cancer death for children under 19, the third leading cause of cancer death for young adults ages 20 to 39.

Brain tumors attack the essence of what it means to be an individual. They ravage the control center for thought, emotion, and movement. The developing minds of children are especially susceptible.

There are over 100 different types of brain cancers, making effective treatments very complicated and expensive. There is no proven cure for most malignant brain tumors. Congress needs to appropriate increased funding for the National Cancer Institute and provide a strong investment in brain tumor research. We need to give patients as many options as possible to ensure quality cancer care and improve long-term survival.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to educate themselves about brain tumors, and as we head into the heart of the appropriation season, to support increased funding for the National Cancer Institute.

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BUDGET SURPLUS SHOULD BE USED FOR DECREASING DEBT, PROTECTING SOCIAL SECURITY AND DECREASING TAXES

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, how did the Army lose a \$1 million rocket launcher? How did the Air Force lose 15 jets? How did the Department of Interior build a \$300,000 outhouse? Why is it that Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream gets an \$800,000 taxpayer supplement? Why is it that, if one eats cheese pizza, the FDA inspects it; but if one has the cheese and pepperoni, the USDA inspects it? It is easy. It is called OPM, "other people's money."

In Washington, the departments, the bureaucracies are all operating on other people's money, taxpayers' money, hard-working men and women who put in 40, 50, 60 hours a week paying their tax dollars to Washington only to have it squandered by unelected faceless bureaucrats who know the beauty of OPM. They do not have to be accountable because it is not their money.

Mr. Speaker, the Republican party knows whose money it is. It is the hard-working American taxpayers. That is why we believe budget surpluses should be used to pay down the debt, protect Social Security, and give a tax decrease to the working Americans; and that is what we are working for.

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GRANTING PERMANENT NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TO CHINA

(Mr. ARMEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, in 3½ weeks, we will take what will be, I believe, the most important vote in this Congress, the vote to extend permanent normal trade relations to China.

Mr. Speaker, this vote is important. It is not only important to our own domestic industries, our driving high-tech industry or to America's workers in other industry or to America's farmers, but it is very, very important, perhaps even more important, to the sense of freedom and dignity to the Chinese people.

Mr. Speaker, this vote is not about allowing Chinese product access to American markets, it is about allowing American product access to Chinese markets. It is about having the Chinese Government accept the discipline of conforming to a worldwide trade regime of rules and proper conduct and behavior. That can be infectious, Mr. Speaker. If they can accept those disciplines with respect to commerce, they are most likely going to accept them with respect to other aspects of their life.

It is about allowing the Chinese people, the normal every day working Chinese man or woman, the opportunity to enjoy the information, the freedom, the cultural experience, the sharing of America's freedom and, by doing so, getting a case to freedom in their own life.

History has proven, Mr. Speaker, that once people acquire the experience